

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
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- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- In what situations does your family currently need wisdom?
- What is most important to you—money, power, or wisdom? Why?
- Share about a time you made a wise decision.

Solomon Asked for Wisdom

1 Kings 2–3

STORY POINT: GOD GAVE SOLOMON WISDOM TO LEAD HIS PEOPLE.

When David died, Solomon became the king of Israel.

One night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream. God said, "Solomon, ask for anything you want, and I will give it to you."

Solomon prayed, "God, I am young, and I do not know very much about being a king. Please make me wise and obedient to You. Help me know the difference between right and wrong. Help me lead Your people well."

God was happy with Solomon's request. God said, "I will give you wisdom. In fact, I will make you more wise and understanding than anyone who has ever lived. No one in the future will ever be as wise as Solomon."

God also said, "Because you asked for wisdom, I will also give you what you did not ask for: long life, riches, and honor. You will be greater than any other king during your lifetime."

Then Solomon woke up. He praised God and offered sacrifices to worship Him.

Christ Connection: Solomon was a wise king who wanted to do God's plan. Solomon wasn't perfect, but God had a plan to give His people a greater and wiser king—His Son, Jesus. Jesus completely trusted God. Jesus surrendered His own life to die on the cross for our sin.



FOLD



Ask for Anything

Rank the requests in order from 1 (most desired) to 8 (least desired). Write the numbers on the flames. Then compare your answers with a friend.



King Solomon's Clues

Decide if each statement is true or false. Find and read the Scripture references in your Bible to check your answers.

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T | F | 1. Solomon became king after his father, David, died.
(1 Kings 2:10-12) |
| T | F | 2. God appeared to Solomon in a burning bush.
(1 Kings 3:5) |
| T | F | 3. Solomon asked God for power, riches, and a long life.
(1 Kings 3:9) |
| T | F | 4. God gave Solomon wisdom, riches, and honor.
(1 Kings 3:12-13) |

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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Where do you most often go for information and instruction?
- Do you think you are wise? Why or why not?
- How can you grow in wisdom as a family?

Wisdom for God's People

Proverbs; Ecclesiastes; Song of Songs

STORY POINT: WISDOM IS FEARING THE LORD AND OBEYING HIS WORD.

God gave King Solomon wisdom to lead His people. People came from far away to hear Solomon's wise words. Solomon wrote thousands of wise sayings called *proverbs*. In the Book of Proverbs, Solomon said to love and worship God. He told people how to make wise decisions.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart," Solomon wrote in Proverbs 3:5. He also wrote other wise sayings like, "A gentle answer turns away anger, but a harsh word stirs up wrath," and "Even a young man is known by his actions—by whether his behavior is pure and upright."

Some people do not always listen to God's words. Solomon wrote, "Fools hate wisdom and instruction."

Solomon wrote another book in the Bible called Ecclesiastes. The Book of Ecclesiastes has wisdom for people too. Solomon wrote about money and work and how to live a good life.

Solomon also wrote a poem about love. This poem is called Song of Songs. Solomon wrote this poem to celebrate God's wise plan for love and marriage.



Christ Connection: Wisdom in the Bible shows us how to be like Jesus—in how we live, how we speak, and how we think. But wisdom cannot save us. Only Jesus, who perfectly followed God's wise plan, can rescue us from sin.

FOLD

PROVERBS

ECCLESIASTES

**SONG OF
SONGS**

Poetry and Wisdom Books

How many words can you make using the letters in these Bible books? List them in the boxes. Then compare your list with friends.

Christ Connection Scramble

Unscramble the mixed-up words in today's Christ Connection.

_____ (MODWSI) in the Bible shows us how to be like
_____ (SSUEJ) – in how we _____ (VLEI), how
we _____ (PEKSA), and how we _____ (KNITH).
But wisdom cannot _____ (VEAS) us. Only Jesus,
who perfectly followed God's wise plan, can _____
(SCUERE) us from _____ (NIS).

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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- In what ways does your family honor God?
- Share honestly how you feel about gathering for worship with the church.
- How can you encourage one another to focus on God?

Solomon Built the Temple

1 Kings 6–8

STORY POINT: GOD LED HIS PEOPLE TO BUILD A TEMPLE WHERE HE WOULD DWELL WITH THEM.

Solomon began to build a temple for the Lord. Solomon ordered thousands of workers to help build the temple. They laid a foundation and built the outside of the temple. God blessed the temple and promised Solomon, "If you obey My commands, I will keep the promise I made to David. I will live among the Israelites, and I will not abandon My people."

The temple was built in seven years. It was beautiful! Solomon hired men to make bronze furnishings for the temple. When the temple was complete, Solomon moved the ark of God to the new temple. Solomon gathered the leaders of Israel. As the priests moved the ark to the most holy place in the temple, King Solomon and the leaders sacrificed sheep and cattle to the Lord.

When the priests came out of the temple, a cloud filled the temple. God's glory was in the cloud. Solomon spoke to the Israelites: "God promised David that his son would build a temple. God kept His promise!"

Solomon prayed. He thought about the future. Solomon knew Israel would sin and make God angry again; so he asked for forgiveness for God to hear their prayers. When Solomon had finished praying, he encouraged the Israelites to love and obey God. The people returned to their homes, joyful because God was good to them.

Christ Connection: The temple was a place where God was with His people. The people could go there to make sacrifices and worship God. Today, when we trust in Jesus, He is with us wherever we go. We can look to Him for forgiveness and help.



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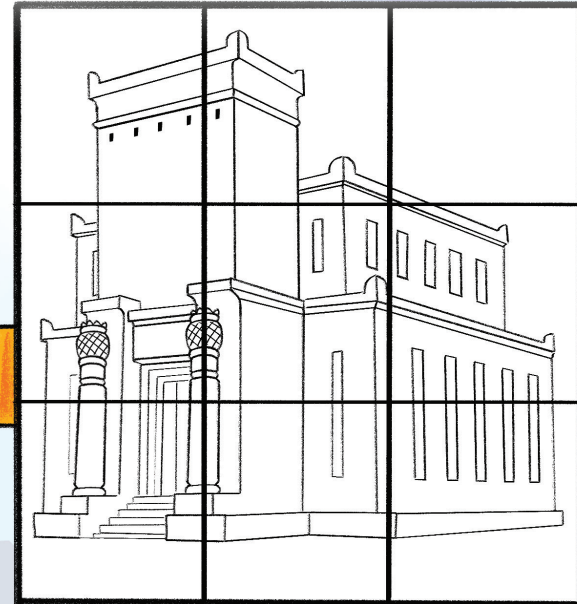
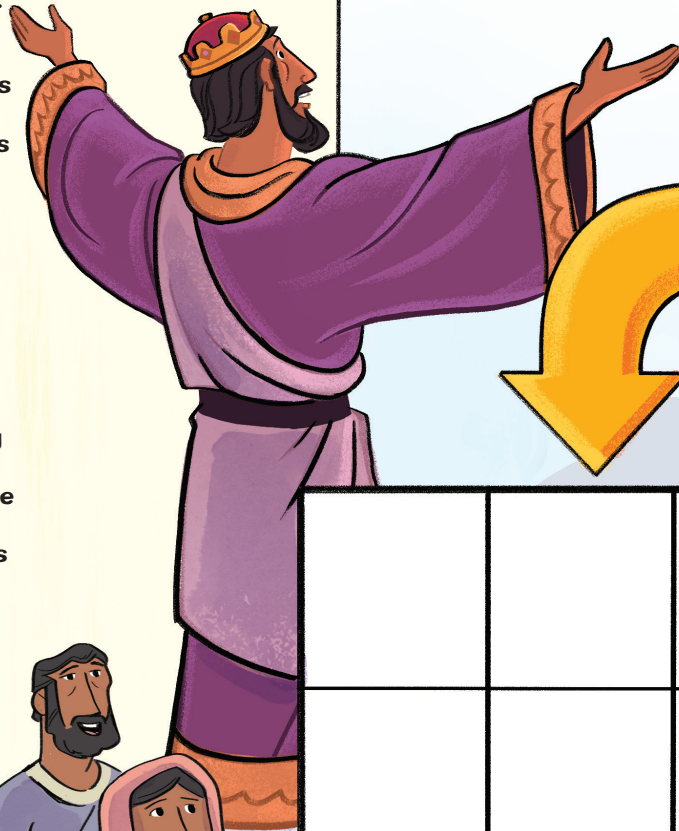
Draw the Temple

Use the guide on the right to draw the temple that Solomon built.

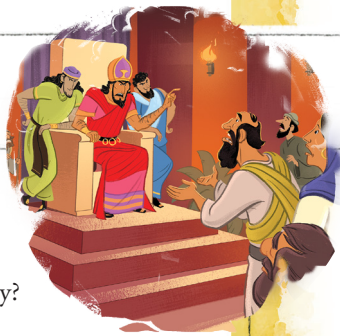
Solomon's Supplies

Check the items you think King Solomon needed to build the temple. Cross out the items he didn't need.

- window frames
- finished stones
- banjos
- paintbrushes
- pure gold
- cedar planks
- cedar paneling
- measuring tape
- cypress boards
- apples
- bronze
- olive wood
- doors
- screwdriver
- bulldozer



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Talk about a time your family felt divided by conflict.
- How can you pray for leaders in your church, city, and country?
- Talk about a time your family was affected by someone else's foolish choices.

The Kingdom Divided

1 Kings 11-12

STORY POINT: GOD DIVIDED ISRAEL INTO TWO KINGDOMS BECAUSE SOLOMON SINNED.

King Solomon loved God, but he did not love God with his whole heart. He began to worship the false gods that his wives worshiped. God said to Solomon, "Since you have done this, I will take the kingdom away from you. You will be king the rest of your life, but when your son becomes king, he will lose everything except for one tribe."

When Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became king. The people told Rehoboam, "Your father, Solomon, made us work too hard. We will gladly serve you if you make our work easier."

Rehoboam told the workers, "My father did not make you work hard enough! I'll make you work even harder!"

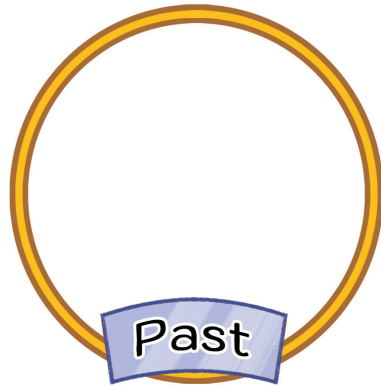
The people did not want to serve a king like Rehoboam, so they made Jeroboam king. Jeroboam had been one of Solomon's officials. Now he was king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Only one tribe remained under Rehoboam's rule, and that was the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

Now Jeroboam was the king of Israel, but he wasn't a good king. Jeroboam led all the people to worship the false gods instead of the one true God.

Christ Connection: King Solomon failed to lead God's people perfectly. God's people needed a better king, a perfect king! Through David's family, God would send His own Son, Jesus Christ, to be a perfect King over God's people forever. Jesus is greater than Solomon. Jesus brings His people together and leads them back to God.



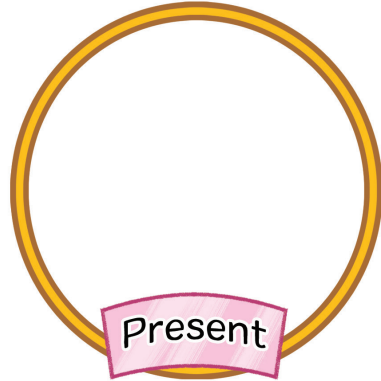
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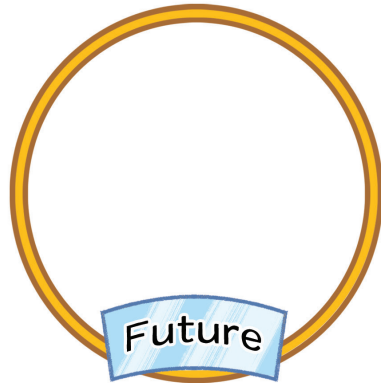
Past, Present, Future

Draw pictures of yourself in the past, present, and future.

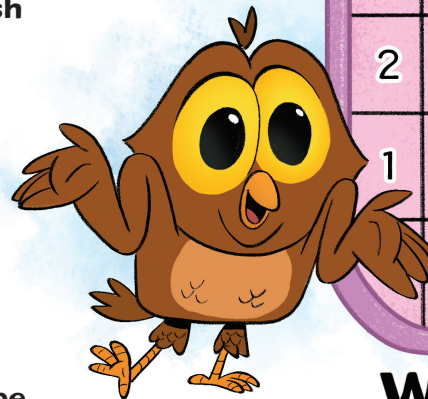
What's something you wish you knew in the past?



What's something you wish you knew now?



What's something you hope to know in the future?



6	God	over	the
5	future	learned	Moses
4	Paul	knows	for
3	past	time	about
2	Joshua	present	taught
1	an	everything	and
	A	B	C

Whooo Knows?

What does God know?

Find the words in these spaces to find the answer:

A6, B4, B1, C3, C6, A3, B2, C1, A5.

_____ ,

_____ , _____ .